AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

21. (Previously Amended) A method for preparing a stabilized multi-component vaccine, the method comprising mixing at least:

a) pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form,

b) tetanus toxoid,

c) diphtheria toxoid,

d) inactivated polio virus,

e) a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B, and

f) an aluminum salt,

wherein tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid are adsorbed onto the aluminum salt before being mixed with the other components and the conjugate is prepared in a phosphate buffer solution before being mixed with the other components.

22. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 21, wherein pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form are adsorbed onto an aluminum salt before being mixed with the other components.

23. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 21, wherein inactivated polio virus is mixed with the other components without being adsorbed onto an aluminum salt.

24. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 21, wherein the aluminum salt is selected from a group consisting of aluminum hydroxide and aluminum phosphate.

25. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 21, further comprising adding hepatitis B surface antigen adsorbed onto an aluminum salt before being mixed with the other components.

26. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein mixing is conducted in the following order:

a) adsorbing tetanus toxoid and diphtheria onto aluminum hydroxide,

b) adsorbing pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form onto an aluminum salt,

c) mixing the components obtained in a) with those obtained in b),

d) adding inactivated polio virus,

e) adding a phosphate buffer solution of a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B.

E1 contd.

27. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 25 wherein mixing is conducted in the following order:

a) adsorbing tetanus toxoid and diphtheria onto aluminum hydroxide,

b) adsorbing pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin in purified form onto an aluminum salt,

c) mixing the components obtained in a) with those obtained in b),

d) adding inactivated poliovirus after c),

e) adding hepatitis B surface antigen previously adsorbed onto an aluminum salt after d),

f) adding a phosphate buffer solution of a conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B after e).

28. (Cancelled) The method according to claim 21, wherein said conjugate of a carrier molecule selected from tetanus toxoid and diphtheria toxoid and a capsular polysaccharide of *Haemophilus influenzae* type B is prepared in a phosphate buffer solution before being mixed with the other components.

29. (Previously Added) The method according to claim 25, wherein hepatitis B surface antigen previously adsorbed onto aluminum salt is added separately from the other components within a dual chamber syringe.

B2

30. (Previously Added) A multi-component vaccine obtained by the method according to claim 21.

E2 contd.

31. (Previously Added) The multi-component vaccine according to claim 30, wherein the amounts of pertussis toxoid and filamentous hemagglutinin are between 5 and 30 µg in a single dose of said multi-component vaccine.

32. (Previously Added) The multi-component vaccine according to claim 30, wherein the amounts of diphtheria toxoid and tetanus toxoid are between 5 and 30 LF in a single dose of said multi-component vaccine.

33. (Previously Added) The multi-component vaccine according to claim 30 wherein the amounts of the different polioviruses are

a) between 20 and 50 D antigen units of poliovirus type1,

b) between 4 and 10 D antigen units of poliovirus type2, and

c) between 8 and 40 antigen units of poliovirus type3,

in a single dose of said multi-component vaccine.

34. (Previously Amended) A multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27, wherein the composition of said vaccine comprises per 0.5 ml dose:

a) 25 µg pertussis toxoid;

b) 25 µg filamentous hemagglutinin;

c) 30 LF diphtheria toxoid;

d) 10 Lf tetanus toxoid;

e) 40 D antigen units poliovirus type 1;

f) 8 D antigen units poliovirus type 2;

g) 32 D antigen units poliovirus type 3;

h) 10 µg Haemophilus influenzae type B polysaccharide covalently bound to 20 µg tetanus toxoid; and

i) 5 µg hepatitis B surface antigen.

35. (Previously Added) The multi-component vaccine according to claim 30, wherein the composition of said vaccine comprises per 0.5 ml dose:

a) 25 µg pertussis toxoid;

b) 25 µg filamentous hemagglutinin;

c) 30 LF diphtheria toxoid;

d) 10 Lf tetanus toxoid;

e) 40 D antigen units poliovirus type 1;

f) 8 D antigen units poliovirus type 2;

g) 32 D antigen units poliovirus type 3;

h) 10 µg Haemophilus influenzae type B polysaccharide covalently bound to 20 µg tetanus toxoid;

i) 5 µg hepatitis B surface antigen;

j) 20 µMoles phosphates;

k) 5 µMoles carbonates;

l) 0.125 ml of 50 mM tris buffer; and

m) 0.356 mg aluminum salt.

36. (Previously Amended) A method for conferring protection in a host against disease caused by *Bordetella pertussis, Clostridium tetanii, Corynebacterium diphtheriae, Haemophilus influenzae, Poliovirus* and/or *Hepatitis B virus* comprising administering an effective amount of a multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27.

37. (Previously Amended) A method of immunizing a human host against disease caused by infection by *Bordetella pertussis, Clostridium tetanii, Corynebacterium diphtheriae, Haemophilus influenzae, Poliovirus*, and/or *Hepatitis B virus*, which method comprises administering to the host an effective amount of a multi-component vaccine obtained by the method of claim 27.

38. (Previously Added) The method of claim 36 wherein the host is an infant.